

Applicant(s): Ralph et al.  
Serial No.: 09/975,471  
Filed: 10/11/2001  
For: Intervertebral Spacer Device  
Utilizing a Spirally Slotted  
Belleville Washer Having  
Radially Spaced Concentric  
Grooves

Examiner: Pellegrino, B.  
Art Unit: 3738  
Docket No.: F-209  
Dated: 1/20/2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed 12/31/2003 in the above-identified application, the Applicant re-submits the following corrected section (CLAIM AMENDMENTS) of the non-compliant amendment previously submitted in the subject case.

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## FAX COVER SHEET

TO: UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

GROUP ART UNIT: 3732

FAX: 703-872-9302 (Before Final)

FROM: TIMOTHY J. BORTREE  
REG. NO. 43,506PHONE: 908-273-6461  
FAX: 908-273-6136

DATE: 1/20/2004

PAGES: 7 (INCLUDING THIS PAGE)

RE:

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